



# Previous Specification Sheet Music Stand Helper Retaining Device WITH ABSTRACT MARK-UPS

[0001] A music stand fitting removable sleeve or clipped on device that fits over a music stand, of the type used to display sheet music for a musician, which performs the purpose of holding music, books, papers, or writing implements via additional securing devices and pockets. The Sheet Music Stand Helper is a removable sleeve or clipped on device which fits over the top of a music stand, which has one or more pockets in the back for holding sheet music and/or writing implements, transparent pockets in the front, for holding viewable sheet music, and a vertical strap in the middle to secure music to the Sheet Music Stand Helper, with fabric under the strap to muffle snapping sound should the securing strap be snapped.

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REFERENCES CITED

**U.S. Patent Documents**

<i>App. No.</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>	<i>Inventor</i>	<i>Pat. No.</i>
106691	—December 26, 1979	Morris	4,300,743
303399	—December 10, 1991	Corsile	D322,182
303207	—October 10, 1995	Ross, Jr.	5,456,497
463626	—June 10, 1997	Ross, Jr.	5,636,868
162520	—November 23, 1982	Biasini	4,360,183
		Merrill	255,649
		Wood	290,381
		Swope	818,579
		Bromley	290,381
		Mason	1,947,053
		Mathias	3,809,352
805080	June 9, 1977	Manso	4,150,807
	October 1933	Barcalo	1,928,806
195878	February 14, 1994	Biasini	5,356,109
099224	May 9, 1995	Leeb	5,413,305
303399	December 10, 1991	Corsile	D322,182
303207	October 10, 1995	Ross, Jr.	5,456,497
463626	June 10, 1997	Ross, Jr.	5,636,868
637751	April 15, 1986	Weiss	4,582,344
709333	May 5, 1998	Giebelhausen	5,746,410 A1
563281	October 1, 1957	Lykes	2,807,908

478834      August 7, 2001      Friedrich      6,270,050.

## DESCRIPTION

### FIELD BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

#### 1. Field of the Invention

[001] [0002] This invention relates generally to music stands of the type used by musicians to hold sheet music, ~~securely and additional sheet music, books, papers, or writing implements on the stand so as to be readily available when needed.~~ This invention also relates generally to supports used to hold or steady sheet music against a music stand. More particularly, this invention is a sheet music retaining device that holds music securely to the front of a music stand and which holds additional sheet music and writing implements on the back of the stand, so as to be readily available when needed. ~~F~~The Sheet Music Retaining Device Sheet Music Stand Helper can be placed on and removed from an existing conventional music stand and can be packed and transported as a self-contained structure. Alternatively, its features might be attached to and be part of a complete music stand.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION 2. Inception

[002] [0003]—Whenever the inventor moved her stand or even bumped into it, all her music would come fluttering off the stand. This caused her to consider how she might keep the music from falling off her stand.

[003] [0004]—Although this invention will be described with reference to use by musicians, it will be evident that the invention can be used by anyone who wishes to secure papers or books to a music stand, or who wishes to have additional papers or books handy for use.

[004] [0005]—Musicians use music stands to display two or three sheets of music while the musicians play various instruments. Music stands usually allow for resting of sheet music on a lip, secured by gravity holding the sheets against the back and lip of the stand. Bumps into the stand or the placement of too many sheets against the stand would cause the music to fall off the stand or otherwise be displaced. Further, additional music which may be needed is not always readily available, having to be stored in a separate bag or carrying case and searched for and removed when needed.

[005] [0006]—A structure which secures music in use to the stand and which holds additional music to be readily available when needed would be helpful to the user of the music stand.

[006] [0007]—As a result of these design criteria, it would be advantageous if an existing music stand had a portable sleeve, which could be slipped or clipped onto it, which could secure music to it while in use and could hold additional

sheets or books for ready availability when needed. The sleeve or device could be removed and easily carried with the user to wherever needed.

3. Description of Related Prior Art

[0008] Previous music stand accessories provided means of holding various small items, none of which did so via the back of a music stand.

[0009] Other previous music stand accessories accommodated parts of musical instruments to be hung from the stand via various attachments.

[007] A search of the United States patent literature disclosed a number of devices for retaining sheet music, of books or the like. Typical of these are the following:

U.S. Pat. No. 255,649, Merrill, shows a music holder where there is a pair of arms mounted to a slotted plate. The arms can be moved along the slot to various positions to hold the sheet music.

U.S. Pat. No. 290,381, Wood, shows a book holder having a pair of spring-like tongue elements mounted to a structure and adapted to hold the cover of the book. There are two other spring arms having pads on the end to hold the pages of the book.

U.S. Pat. No. 818,579, Swope, discloses what is called a "copyholder" disclosing a base plate having a pair of spring-loaded arms mounted thereto. The spring-loaded arms are made integral with coil springs which provide the spring actions, and these arms engage the copy.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,360,718, Bromley, discloses a book rest where there is a pair of arms formed integrally with lower coil springs, so that the arms yieldingly engage the book. These are in turn mounted to a horizontal base board.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,947,053, Mason, discloses a book holder where there are a pair of bracket clips mounted to a rest member of a stand. The clips are mounted by a pair of extension arms which fit against the bottom side of the rest member and are retained in that position

by bracket bearings.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,809,352, Mathias, shows a "book holder and shield" which is made of a shield of transparent synthetic resin. There is a rear support panel formed integrally with a transparent holding and viewing panel that is positioned in front of the book being held.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,150,807, Manso, shows a book holding device where there is a main support panel and a pair of wire hooks mounted over the top side of the panel. These hooks engage the top edge of the book pages.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,360,183, Biasini, shows a sheet music retaining device where a transparent retaining arm, attached to a music stand via a mounting flange, applies pressure against the sheet music to the front panel of the stand.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,928,806, Barcalo, shows a book-holding pillow used to support books comfortably while reading. A wedge shaped cushion with a flat front, lip and horizontal securing strap hold the book in place.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,356,109, Biasini, shows a stand extender, capable of folding in on itself and still holding the sheet music it supports. It consists of 3 panel sections and 3 flange sections which rest on the stand and fold in on themselves to function as a sheet music container. There is an attached upwardly open pocket on its front to hold sheet music to the extender and there is an attached downwardly open pocket on its back to hold the stand extender to the stand

U.S. Pat. No. 5,413,305, Leeb, shows a freestanding, lightweight collapsible bookstand, with rigid sides forming a triangular shape when in supporting position and flat when in the collapsed position.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,300,743, Morris, shows an accessory removably mounted on a sheet music support stand to accommodate accessories. It hangs from the flange of the music

stand and provides a tray to hold accessories.

U.S. Pat. No. D322,182, Corsile, shows a holder for sheet music and accessories. Corsile claims the ornamental design for a holder for sheet music and music accessories, as shown and described. The design replaces the panel and flange atop the music stand column or equivalent and consists of a tray with flanges at bottom and sides.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,456,497, Ross, Jr., shows a holder that allows one-handed manipulation of books, notebook, folder, or binder free of accidental dropping or slipping.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,636,868, Ross, Jr., shows a holder that allows one-handed manipulation of books, notebook, folder, or binder free of accidental dropping or slipping.

U.S. Pat. No., 4,582,344 , Weiss, shows a music holder adapted to be placed on a music stand and which is described as consisting of a back and a ledge that holds sheet music or books to the front of a music stand via a hinged front flap that rests against the music and holds the pages open.

DE Patent No. 3108643, Giebelhausen, A1 shows a hand-held book holder utilizing a back and a shelf along with weighted nylon thread hanging through slots to hold the pages of the book open.

U.S. Patent No. 2,807,908 Lykes, shows a reading stand securing a book attached to its front via elastic cords positioned vertically across the front and back covers of the book and horizontally across the face of the book.

U.S. Patent No. 6,270,050, Friedrich, shows a pillow-mounted book holder which rests on a reader's lap and holds the front of a book in a readable position.

[008] Previous music stand accessories provided means of holding various small items, none of which did so in combination with retaining sheet music to the front and the back of the stand.

[009] Other previous sheet music retaining devices held music to the front of the music stand, but none with the additional ability of storing music and writing implements on the back of the stand.

[0010] Still other book holder devices held books open, but none was adapted to a music stand as a sleeve.

[0011] [0010]—No prior inventions combine the features of a removable device with both transparent and mechanical securing of sheet music to the front of the music stand with additional, ~~music book storage compartments~~ on the back of the stand as well. ~~and more~~ The lack of these combined features cause inconvenience to the user and adversely affects working efficiency. general accessory storage all on the music stand. As described above, this functionality will be greatly appreciated by musicians and others wishing to use music stands to hold ~~and store~~ various papers sheet music and writing implements in a secure and orderly manner.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

**[0012]** An object of the present invention is to provide a removable device, adapted to a conventional music stand, to securely hold music to the front of the music stand and to hold additional music and writing implements to the back of the stand.

**[0013]** The present invention is a removable device adapted to be mounted to a conventional music stand to hold sheet music to the front of the vertical panel of the stand and to hold additional sheet music and writing implements to the back of the stand. In the preferred implementation, the device has a downwardly open sleeve portion adapted to fit over the entire vertical panel of the music stand, leaving the support flange of the music stand exposed; the front face of the sleeve lays flat against the front of the vertical panel of the stand and the back of the sleeve lays across the top portion of the music stand supporting column, or equivalent, and attaches to the front of the sleeve at the top, left and right edges of the vertical panel of the stand. In the preferred implementation, the device has an upwardly open pocket attached to the back of the sleeve portion for holding sheet music and writing implements, an upwardly open transparent pocket attached to the front face of the sleeve portion, for holding sheet music which can be viewed through said transparent pocket, and a vertical elastic strap, attached to the front of the sleeve at its top and bottom, to hold sheet music placed under it to the stand. In the preferred implementation, the vertical elastic strap is positioned over a strip of fabric to muffle snapping sound should the vertical strap be snapped.

**[0011]** The Sheet Music Stand Helper is a fabric sleeve the user can slip over the top of a music stand. It has two clear plastic pockets, one on the right and one on the

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~~left sides of the sleeve's front, for sheet music (or other papers) to be slid into. The plastic pockets are notched to allow easy insertion and removal of papers. Separating the two plastic pockets is an elastic strap. The elastic will hold music books or sheet music (or other papers) in place if you slide the center of the book under the elastic. The felt (or other) material under the elastic will muffle the sound if someone snaps the elastic against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Last, the Sheet Music Stand Helper will hold additional books, music, papers, or writing implements in a special pocket (or pockets) on the back of the sleeve.~~

[0012] ~~The sleeve might alternatively be constructed of felt, vinyl, flannel backed vinyl, cloth, or stiff fabric, or of any other suitable material. The Sheet Music Stand Helper might alternatively be clipped on, rather than slid on, and composed of plastic, vinyl, metal, composite material, Lucite, cardboard, or of any other suitable material. The Sheet Music Stand Helper might alternatively be attached as a hinged, stiff, front and back device, utilizing a clip, clasp, Velcro, snap, flap, tie, magnetic, or some other securing device, and having its body composed of plastic, vinyl, metal, composite material, Lucite, cardboard, or some other stiff or suitable material. Another alternative would be to have some sides secured via one of the securing methods mentioned and have another side or sides secured by zipper. Alternatively, the entire envelope might be secured to the music stand by zipper. Alternatively, the Sheet Music Stand Helper might consist only of the front of the described invention or of only the back of the described invention, utilizing a suitable securing device to attach it to the music stand.~~

[0013] ~~The Sheet Music Stand Helper might have 2 or more center straps on the front, instead of only one. Alternatively, the strap(s) might be made of cord, rope, string, woven material or of vinyl, or any other suitable material, secured by Velcro, snaps, clips, buckles, ties, magnet(s), or by any other suitable securing method. The Sheet Music Stand Helper might alternatively utilize a metal clip, a magnetic apparatus, or an arm,~~

~~made of metal, plastic or some other material, that swings down from a hinge, to secure books or papers, in lieu of the elastic strap(s).~~

[0014] ~~Alternatively, under the strap(s) or securing apparatus, quilted fabric, plastic foam rubber, fabric, or any other material, preferably sound dampening, might be used, instead of felt.~~

[0015] ~~Alternatively, the transparent pockets on the front might be made of a semi-transparent plastic, sheer or non-sheer fabric rather than the clear plastic. Alternatively, the transparent pockets on the front might be made of nylon mesh, or of any other suitable transparent, semi-transparent, or opaque material. These pockets might utilize some method other than a notch to allow easy insertion or removal of papers; they might utilize a hole in the middle of each sheet, or the top edge of the plastic sheet might be cut at a diagonal, or the top edge might be cut in the shape of a ‘v’, a wavy design at the top, or a zipper across the top, or some other suitable design, to allow easy grasping of the papers held within.~~

[0016] ~~Alternatively, the Sheet Music Stand Helper might have no transparent pockets on it, with only the strap(s) on its front to secure books or papers to it.~~

[0017] ~~The Sheet Music Stand Helper might have zero, two, three, four, or more pockets on the back of it.~~

[0018] ~~The Sheet Music Stand Helper might have zero, one, two, three, four, or more pockets on the front of it.~~

[0019] ~~The Sheet Music Stand Helper might also have loops attached to its sides to allow the clipping on of writing implements to it. Alternatively, it might have pockets~~

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attached to its sides to allow the holding of writing implements. Additionally or alternatively, it might have either loops or pockets attached to its back to specifically allow the holding of writing implements. Additionally or alternatively, it might have a simple, smaller pocket(s) attached to the larger pocket on the back of it to allow the holding of writing implements or small objects.

{0020} The Sheet Music Stand Helper might be comprised of all of its features or of some of them.

{0021} The Sheet Music Stand Helper might also be constructed as features permanently attached to a whole music stand.

{0022} All variations in implementation of the concept of an added-on sleeve or attachment to an existing music stand, to facilitate the above features on a music stand are covered by this patent application.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] The sheet music retaining device according to the present invention will now be further described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

- FIG. 1 Is a view of component parts of the device (reference numbers 1,2,3,4,5,6,15,16)
- FIG. 2 Is a view of a conventional music stand, to which the device would be adapted (reference numbers 11,12,13,14.)
- FIG. 3 Is a view of the sleeve folded with hem allowance extended (reference numbers 1,7,8,9)
- FIG. 4 Is a view of the sleeve folded with finished hem (reference numbers 1,8,9,10)
- FIG. 5 Is a view of the back pocket being hemmed (reference numbers 2,17,18,19,20)
- FIG. 6 Is a view of the hemmed back pocket (reference numbers 2,20,21,22)
- FIG. 7 Unfolded sleeve and component placement (reference numbers 1,2,3,5,6,8,9, 23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31)
- FIG. 8 Is a view of the sleeve folded inside out and having the front and back sides sewn (reference numbers 1,7,31,32,33)
- FIG. 9 Is a view of the finished sleeve front (reference numbers 1,3,5,6,28,33)
- FIG. 10 Is a view of the finished sleeve back (reference numbers 1,2,25,33)
- FIG. 11 Is a view of the sleeve being mounted on a music stand (reference numbers 1,10,11,33)
- FIG. 12 Is the front view of device mounted on a music stand (reference number 1,11,13,14)
- FIG. 13 Is the back view of device mounted on a music stand (reference number 1,2,11)
- FIG. 14 Is a cross sectional view of device mounted on a music stand (reference numbers 1,2,3,5,6,7,12,14,25,28,33)
- FIG. 15 Is a view of the front of device with music secured to itself by elastic (reference numbers 1,35,11,14)
- FIG. 16 Is a view of the front of device with transparent pocket holding sheet music (reference numbers 6,34)
- FIG. 17 Is a view of the back of device with the back pocket holding music and pens (reference numbers 1,2,11,36,37)

[0023] In the drawings:

~~FIG. 1 is a view of the front of a Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand according to the invention and shown in a condition ready for use;~~

~~FIG. 2 is a view of the back of a Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand according to the invention and shown in a condition ready for use;~~

~~FIG. 3 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper;~~

~~FIG. 4 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper;~~

~~FIG. 5 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled parts and features, and shown being used to hold music via front elastic and back pocket;~~

~~FIG. 6 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled parts and features, and shown being used to hold music via transparent plastic pockets;~~

~~FIG. 7 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled parts and features, and shown holding music books and papers in its back pocket;~~

~~FIG. 8 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper at an angle from the bottom with labeled parts and features.~~

~~FIG. 9 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper with all its individual parts shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts.~~

~~FIG. 10 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper with all its individual parts shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts.~~

~~FIG. 11 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper shown in Figure 10, with an alternate implementation of FIG. 10 shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts.~~

~~FIG. 12 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper shown in Figure 10, with an alternate implementation of FIG. 10 shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts.~~

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0015] [0024] In the preferred implementation, the sleeve consists of FIG. 1 a rectangular piece of canvas fabric 1, the dimensions of which, in its finished state, are adapted to fit FIG. 2 the vertical panel 12 of the music stand 11; i.e. FIG. 1 the length 15 of the rectangular canvas fabric 1 is adapted to two hem allowances longer than double the height of the vertical panel 12 of the music stand 11, and the width 16 of the canvas fabric 1 is adapted to be two seam allowance's wider than the width of the vertical panel 12 of the music stand 11; this canvas fabric 1 is folded in half FIG. 3, with the fold at the top 7 of what will become a sleeve 1;

[0016] the hem 9 8 allowance on both the front face and the back face are folded outward and FIG. 4 sewn 10 to make a hem 9 8; Fig. 4 shows what will become the inside face of the sleeve;

[0017] FIG. 1 a transparent sheet 3 of dimensions adapted to the width of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11 and adapted to a little less than the height of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11, with small oblique notches 4 on the top left and top right sides of the sheet 3; a segment of elastic 6, the length of which is adapted to two hem's length longer than the height of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11; a rectangular strip of felt 5 adapted to the height of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11 and with a width adapted to slightly wider than the elastic 6; a canvas fabric pocket 2, the dimensions of which are adapted to width of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11 and adapted to somewhat less than the height of the vertical panel 12 of the stand 11;

[0018] as illustrated in FIG. 5, after cutting oblique slits 17, the ends of which are adapted to define the finished hem of the pocket, at each corner of the pocket 2, each of the edges of the pocket 2 are folded 18 toward the back side of the pocket, tucking in the end of each edge 19 under the hem 20 so as to FIG. 6 be hidden 21 behind the finished hem and sewn 22 to form a hem 20 all the way around top, bottom, and the sides of the pocket 2;

[0019] with the hemmed canvas fabric sleeve 1 unfolded FIG. 7, with a view of the sleeve's outside facing 23, the outside facing bottom 24 of the hemmed pocket 2 is lined up with the bottom of what will become the back face 25 of the sleeve 1 and sewn 26 to attach it to the sleeve at the pocket's bottom and the sides, leaving the top of said pocket unattached; with the sleeve 1 unfolded, the transparent sheet 4 is placed with its bottom 27 lined up with what will be the bottom of the front face 28 of the sleeve 1 in its finished state; the fabric damper 5 with the elastic 6 placed on top of it is placed lengthwise bisecting the front face 28 of the sleeve and sewn 29 at the top and bottom of what will become the front face of the sleeve 28; the transparent sheet 3 is sewn 30 to attach it to the front face of the sleeve 28 on its right side, its left side, and its bottom, leaving the top of the so-formed pocket open;

[0020] the sleeve 1 is then folded in half at the halfway point 31 of its length, with the transparent sheet, damper, elastic, and pocket inside the sleeve FIG. 8; the front face of the sleeve 1 is sewn 32 to the back face of the sleeve at the left and right sides of the sleeve, with the fold 7 at the top of the sleeve and an aperture 33 at the bottom of the sleeve;

[0021] the entire sleeve is folded outside-in FIG. 9 to reveal the transparent sheet 3, the fabric damper 5, the elastic strap 6 on the front face 28 of the sleeve 1, with an aperture 33 at the bottom of the device 1 and FIG. 10 the pocket 2 on the back face 25 of the sleeve 1, with the aperture 33 at the bottom of the sleeve 1.

[0022] FIG. 11 The device is positioned, aperture 33 facing down, over the vertical panel of the music stand 11, with the front face of the sleeve aligned with the front of the flat panel 12 of the music stand 11, and pulled down over the vertical panel 12 of the music stand 11 to encase said stand FIGS. 12, 13 as illustrated, accommodating the vertical panel 10 of the music stand 11 and its support 14. In this preferred embodiment, the flange 13 of the music stand 11 is not encased by the sleeve 1;

[0023] FIG. 14 illustrates a sectional view of the device mounted to the vertical panel 12 of the music stand 11, with the fabric pocket 2 on the back face 25 of device,

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and the transparent pocket 3, damper 5, and elastic strap 6 on the front side of the device 28;

**[0024]** FIGs. 15,16, and 17 illustrate the device in use:

**[0025]** FIG. 15 illustrates the device securing music 34 via the elastic strap 6. In this illustration, the hinge of sheet music has been slid under the elastic strap to secure the music to the stand;

**[0026]** FIG. 16 illustrates the device holding music 35 via the transparent pocket 3. In this illustration, sheet music has been slid into the transparent pocket to secure, in a viewable manner, two pages of sheet music to the stand;

**[0027]** FIG. 17 illustrates the device holding sheet music 36 and clip-on pens 37 via the back pocket 2. In this illustration, the sheet music has been inserted into the back pocket's aperture and the pens clipped onto the back pocket's face.

The invention relates to a music stand fitting removable sleeve or clipped on device that fits over a music stand, of the type used to display sheet music for a musician, which performs the purpose of holding music, books, papers, or writing implements via additional securing devices and pockets. More particularly, the Sheet Music Stand Helper is a removable sleeve or clipped on device which fits over the top of a music stand, which has one or more pockets in the back for holding sheet music and/or writing implements, one or more transparent pockets in the front, for holding viewable sheet music, and a vertical strap in the middle to secure music to the Sheet Music Stand Helper, with fabric under the strap to muffle snapping sound should the securing strap be snapped.

**[0025]** A preferred embodiment of the Sheet Music Stand Helper is as a quilted fabric sleeve the user can slip over the top of a music stand. It has two clear plastic pockets on the right and the left sides of the sleeve's front, for sheet music (or other papers) to be slid into. The plastic pockets are notched to allow easy insertion and removal of papers.

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Separating the two plastic pockets is an elastic strap. The elastic will hold music books or sheet music (or other papers) in place if you slide the center of the book under the elastic. The felt (or other) material under the elastic will muffle the sound if someone snaps the elastic against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Last, the Sheet Music Stand Helper will hold additional books, music, papers, or writing implements in a special pocket (or pockets) on the back of the sleeve.

[0026] A preferred embodiment of the Sheet Music Stand Helper is described.

FIG. 1 is a view of the front of a Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand according to the invention and shown in a condition ready for use. In this figure, the Sheet Music Stand Helper has been slipped over the music stand and has the following labeled parts and features. Part 1 is the fabric sleeve that slips over the stand. Part 3 are the plastic pockets used to hold sheet music (or papers) to be viewed through them. Part 4 is the elastic to hold a book securely against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Part 5 is the felt to muffle the sound of the elastic, should it snap against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Label 6 is the notch in the plastic pocket to allow easy removal of sheets in pocket;

FIG. 2 is a view of the back of a Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand according to the invention and shown in a condition ready for use. In this figure, Sheet Music Stand Helper has been slipped over the top of the music stand and has the following labeled parts. Part 1 is the fabric sleeve that slips over the top of the music stand. Part 2 is the pocket to hold music (or papers) on the Sheet Music Stand Helper, for later use;

FIG. 3 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper. In this figure, the Sheet Music Stand Helper has the following labeled parts and features. Part 1 is the fabric sleeve that slips over the stand. Part 3 are the transparent plastic pockets used to hold sheet music (or papers) to be viewed through them. Part 4 is the elastic to hold a book securely against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Part 5 is the felt to muffle the sound of

the elastic, should it snap against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Label 6 is the notch in the plastic pocket to allow easy removal of sheets in pocket;

FIG. 4 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper. In this figure, the Sheet Music Stand Helper has the following labeled parts. Part 1 is the fabric sleeve that slips over the stand. Part 2 is the pocket to hold music (or papers) on the Sheet Music Stand Helper, for later use;

FIG. 5 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled part and features, and shown being used to hold music via front elastic and back pocket and has the following labeled parts. Part 4 is the elastic to hold a book securely against the Sheet Music Stand Helper. Label 2 demonstrates music or books held in the pocket in the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper ready for use. Label 3 demonstrates book held in front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper by means of the elastic;

FIG. 6 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled parts and features, and shown being used to hold music via transparent plastic pockets and has the following labeled parts. Part 3 is the transparent material to securely hold and allow viewing of music (or sheets of paper);

FIG. 7 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper on a music stand with labeled parts and features, and shown holding music books and papers in its back pocket. In this figure, Sheet Music Stand Helper has the following labeled parts. Part 1 is the fabric sleeve that slips over the stand. Part 2 is the pocket to hold music (or papers) on the Sheet Music Stand Helper, for later use;

~~FIG. 8 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper at an angle from the bottom, showing the opening, labeled 1, at the bottom that allows it to be slipped onto a music stand.~~

~~FIG. 9 is a view of the front of the Sheet Music Stand Helper with all its individual parts shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts. Part 1 is quilted fabric, folded over and connected at the sides (label 9) via stitching with thread, or alternatively, via Velcro, zipper, snaps, buttons, lacing through eyelets, adhesive, magnets, or some other securing method, to form an envelope closed on three sides with an opening at the bottom. Alternatively, two or more pieces of fabric sewn together could be used to create the envelope shape shown. The shape might also be achieved via leather, suede, vinyl, molded plastic, or any other suitable material. Part 2 is a transparent plastic sheet through which papers underneath can be seen. This is secured to the envelope formed above, on its right, left, and its bottom, indicated by dashed line labeled 6; this securing is achieved by stitching with thread, or by button fasteners, or by one of the methods that could be used to secure the sides of the fabric envelope. The bottom of the transparent sheet is secured to part 1 only on its front face, to allow the envelope formed to remain open at the bottom. The preferred method of attachment to the envelope would cover the edges of the plastic so as to conceal edges at the bottom and the sides; the side and bottom edges of transparent sheet are sewn into the seams of the side and around the bottom of part 1. Alternatively, fabric (or other suitable material) strips positioned over the side and bottom edges of the transparent plastic sheet (part 2) might be attached to parts 1 and 2 to cover the edges of the transparent plastic sheet and attach all three parts to each other. Alternatively, the transparent plastic sheet might be attached with revealed edges. Part 3 is felt, which is secured to the front face of part 1 and to part 2 via stitching at the dashed line (label 7) running up and down in its middle. Alternatively, adhesive, staples, or any other suitable securing method might secure part 3. Part 4 is elastic, secured at the top and the bottom (label 8), through parts 3,2, to the front face of part 1, via stitching, adhesive, staples, or any other suitable securing method.~~

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~~FIG. 10 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper with all its individual parts shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts. A pocket (3) is stitched (5) on the bottom and sides to attach it to the back of the envelope. The pocket is secured to the face of the back of the envelope, to allow the bottom of the envelope to remain open. Alternatively, the pocket might be secured by adhesive, staples, or via some other suitable securing method.~~

~~FIG. 11 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper shown in Figure 10, with an alternate implementation of FIG. 10 shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts. Labels 1 and 2 illustrate a series of loops, achieved by sewing a strip of fabric on an area towards the top of the pocket, with alternating portions of the strip sewn against the pocket (label 1), and alternating portions of the strip protruding out (label 2) forming a loop through which a pen clip could attach and hang from. Alternatively, the strip could be attached via adhesive, staples, or some other suitable securing method.~~

~~FIG. 12 is a view of the back of the Sheet Music Stand Helper shown in Figure 10, with an alternate implementation of FIG. 10 shown separated and labeled, with arrows indicating placement in relation to each of the other parts. Part 1 illustrates another smaller pocket, the top of which is wider than the bottom. The bottom and sides are attached via stitching (label 2) and the top is puckered (label 3) and alternating portions of the smaller pocket are sewn and not sewn, achieving a series of smaller pockets in which writing implements might be stored. The smaller pocket might be attached by adhesive, staples, or via some other suitable securing method. Alternatively, the top for the smaller pocket might be the same length as the bottom and merely be sewn at the bottom and sides, with no additional attachment at the top, to allow storage of writing implements, or small objects.~~

[0027] The methods of the present invention can reliably and consistently provide a sheet music stand helper such as the device illustrated in the preceding figures.

[0028] While the invention has been described in detail with respect to specific aspects thereof, it will be appreciated that those skilled in the art, upon attaining an understanding of the foregoing, may readily conceive of alterations to, variations of and equivalents to these aspects. Accordingly, the scope of the present invention should be assessed as that of the appended claims and any equivalents thereto.

## CLAIMS

We claim What is claimed:

- 1) A removable device adapted to be mounted to a conventional music stand to hold sheet music to the front of the vertical panel of the stand and to hold additional sheet music and writing implements to the back of the stand.
- 2) A removable device adapted to be mounted to a conventional music stand to hold sheet music to the front of the vertical panel of the stand and to hold additional sheet music and writing implements to the back of the stand with the following components:
  - a. a downwardly open sleeve portion adapted to fit over the entire vertical panel of the music stand, leaving exposed the support flange of the music stand, where the front face of the sleeve lays flat against the front of the vertical panel of the stand and the back face of the sleeve lays across the music stand supporting column, or equivalent, and attaches to the front face of the sleeve at the top, left and right edges of the vertical panel of the stand.
  - b. an upwardly open pocket attached to the back face of the sleeve portion for holding sheet music and writing implements.
  - c. an upwardly open transparent pocket attached to the front face of the sleeve portion, for holding sheet music which can be viewed through said transparent pocket, and
  - d. a vertical strap, attached to the front face of the sleeve at said sleeve's top and bottom, to hold sheet music placed under said strap to the stand.

- 3) A removable device as claimed in claim 2 wherein the vertical strap is positioned over a strip of fabric to muffle snapping sound should the vertical strap be snapped.
- 4) A removable device as claimed in claim 2 wherein a vertical strap, removably attached to the front face of the sleeve at said sleeve's top and bottom or at said sleeve's top or at said sleeve's bottom, to hold sheet music placed under said strap to the stand.
- 5) A removable device as claimed in claim 4 wherein the vertical strap is positioned over a strip of fabric to muffle snapping sound should the vertical strap be snapped.

1) A music stand auxiliary (also referred to as a Music Stand Helper) comprising:

A body structure defining

a main compartment dimensioned to fit over at least all or a portion of the sheet bearing part of a music stand, and

with an aperture on at least one side to permit addition to or removal from a music stand, and

one or more securing devices to hold one or more items associated with a music stand to it.

2) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, further comprising

one or more storage compartments each dimensioned to store one or more items associated with a music stand, each said storage compartment having an aperture formed on the exterior of the envelope such that each storage compartment is immediately and separately accessible from the exterior of the sleeve.

3) The Music Stand Helper of claim 2, wherein said items comprise a combination of one or more of the following: sheet music, books, papers, writing implements, instrument accessories, supplies, rosin, parts of musical instruments, or clip on lamps, or accessories that are functionally related.

4) The Music Stand Helper of claim 3, wherein functionally related means replaceability and wherein one of said storage compartments is constructed and arranged to store replaceable items.

5) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, wherein said body structure is comprised of a fabric sleeve connected on two sides and at the top, with an aperture on the bottom to permit the fitting of the Music Stand Helper over music bearing part of a music stand.

6) The Music Stand Helper of claim 5, where connected means held together detachably or permanently including by one or more of the following means: zippers, buttons, Velcro® fasteners, clips, laces, snaps, elastic, stretchy fabric, or by the fold of a single piece of fabric so folded as to form the front and back of the Music Stand Helper.

7) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, wherein said body structure is comprised in part or entirely of a material enabling viewing of one or more of the following:

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~~the music stand on which the Music Stand Helper is placed,  
materials stored within the compartments of the Music Stand Helper.~~

- 8) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, where securing devices mean transparent material attached to the front of the Music Stand Helper, covering all or a portion of the front, with an aperture on at least one side to permit the insertion and removal of sheets of paper and sheet music.
- 9) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, where securing devices mean elastic attached at the top and at the bottom of the front side of the sleeve.
- 10) The Music Stand Helper of claim 9, where a strip of sound dampening material is attached to the front of the main compartment, underneath the elastic.
- 11) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, where securing devices mean a strap made of material including the following: cord, rope, string, ribbon, woven material, or of vinyl, and that is attached to the Music Stand Helper by means including the following: stitching, Velcro®, snaps, clips, buckles, ties, or magnets.
- 12) The Music Stand Helper of claim 1, where securing devices mean a metal clip or a metal hinged arm or a plastic hinged arm.

13) A music stand auxiliary (also referred to as a Music Stand Helper) comprising:

A body structure defining

A front and back panel dimensioned to fit over at least all or a portion of the sheet bearing part of a music stand and attached at the top by a hinging device, and

one or more securing devices to hold one or more items associated with a music stand to it, and

one or more storage compartments each dimensioned to store one or more items associated with a music stand, each said storage compartment having an aperture formed on the exterior of the envelope such that each storage compartment is immediately and separately accessible from the exterior of the sleeve.

14) The Music Stand Helper of claim 13, where panel is comprised of one or more of the following materials, including:

molded plastic, vinyl, metal, composite material, acrylic, fabric covered cardboard, vinyl covered cardboard, plastic covered cardboard, or wood.

15) The Music Stand Helper of claim 13, where hinging device means metal or plastic hinge, fabric hinge, binder type rings, a molded hinge integrally attached in the manufacture of the front and back panels.

16) The Music Stand Helper attached to the music bearing portion of a complete music stand, comprising:

a music stand

a body structure defining

a main compartment dimensioned to fit over at least all or a portion of the sheet bearing part of the music stand,

attached to the music bearing portion of the music stand by stand by permanent or semi-permanent means including tape, straps, elastic, ties, Velcro® fasteners, glue, adhesive, bolts, welding, or some suitable adhesive, and

one or more securing devices to hold sheet music, papers, or books to it and

one or more storage compartments each dimensioned to store one or more items associated with a music stand, each said storage compartment having an aperture formed against the back of the sheet bearing portion of a music stand, such that each storage compartment is immediately and separately accessible from the back of the music stand.

17) The Music Stand Helper of claim 16 where the main compartment is formed as an integral component of the music stand.

\* \* \* \* \*

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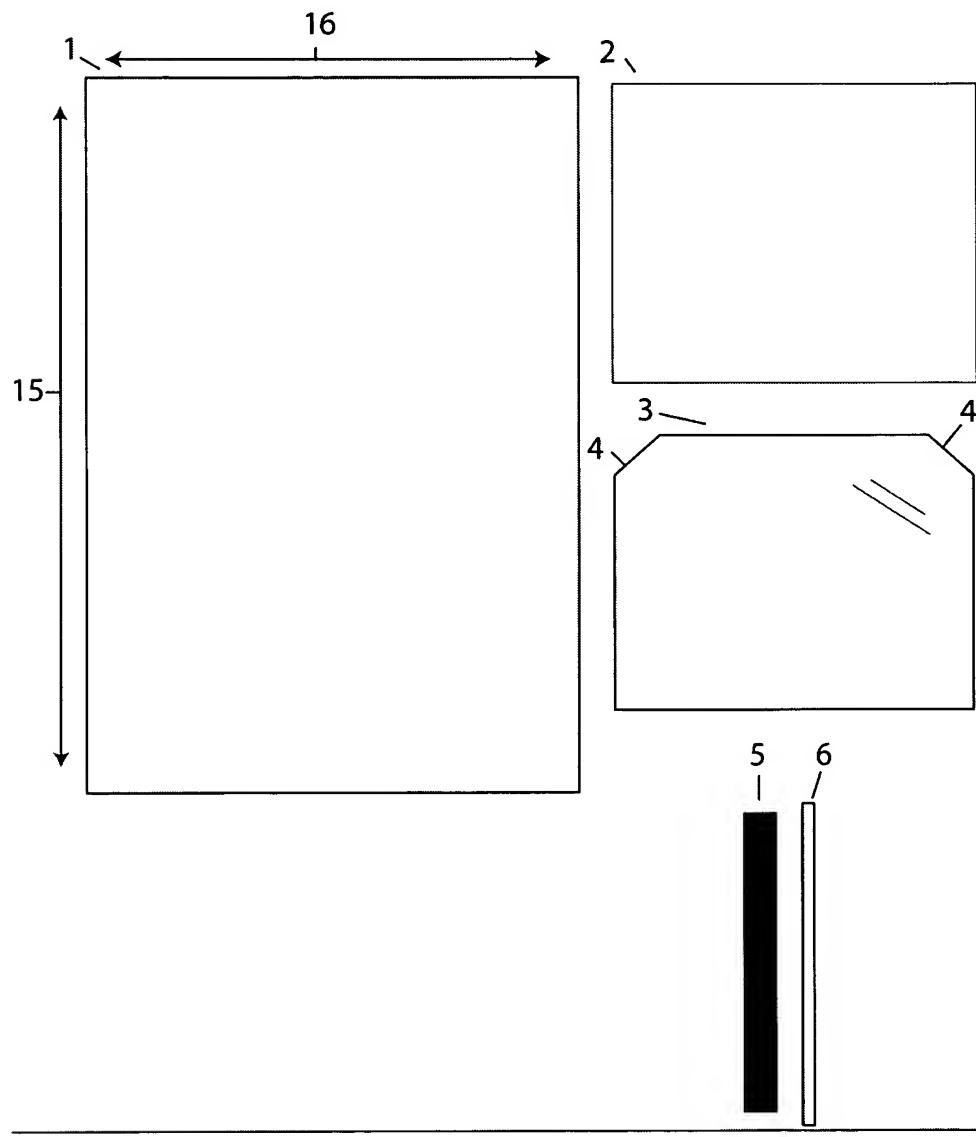
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a removable device adapted to be mounted to a conventional music stand to securely hold sheet music to the front of the vertical panel of the stand and to hold additional sheet music and writing implements to the back of the stand.

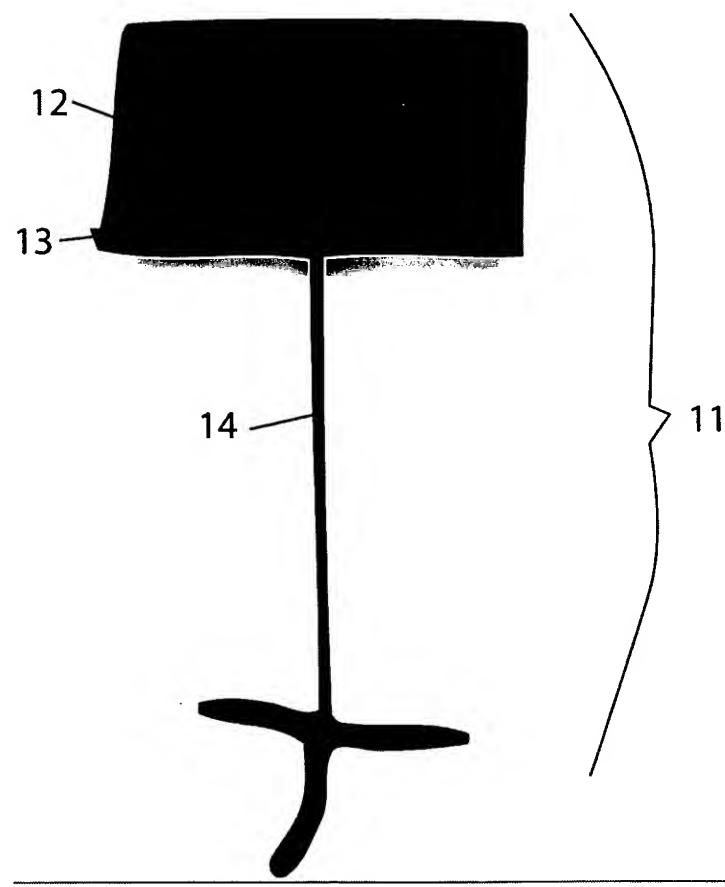
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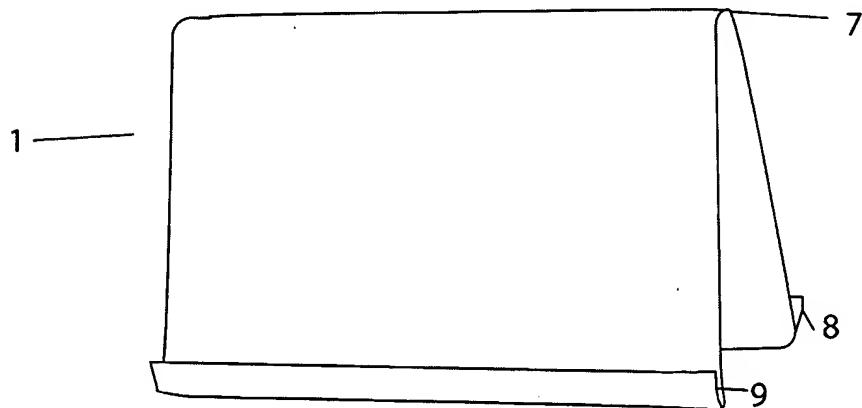
**FIG. 1/17**



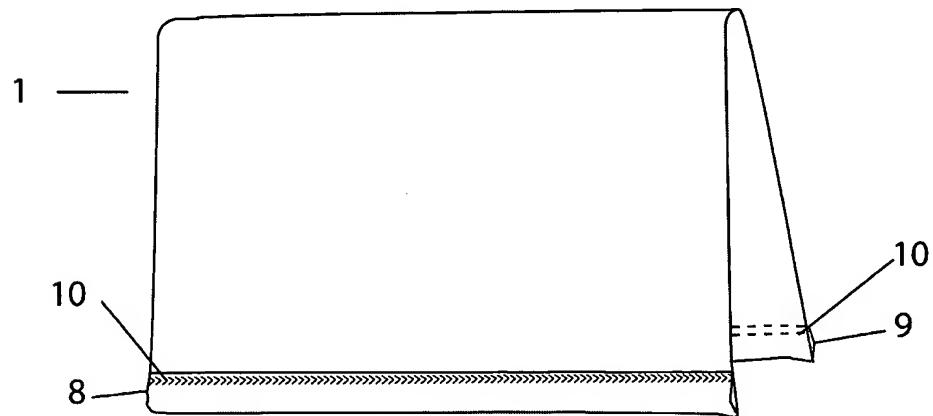
**FIG. 2/17**



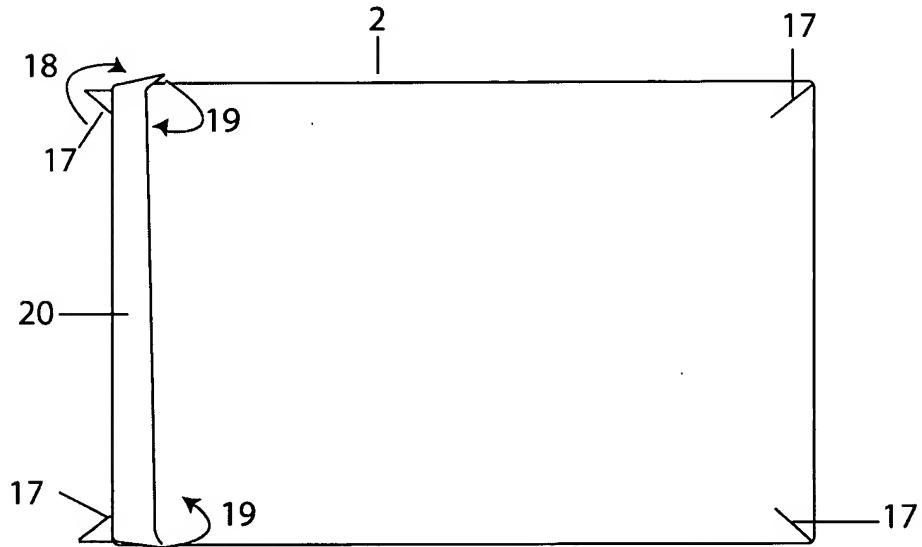
**FIG. 3/17**



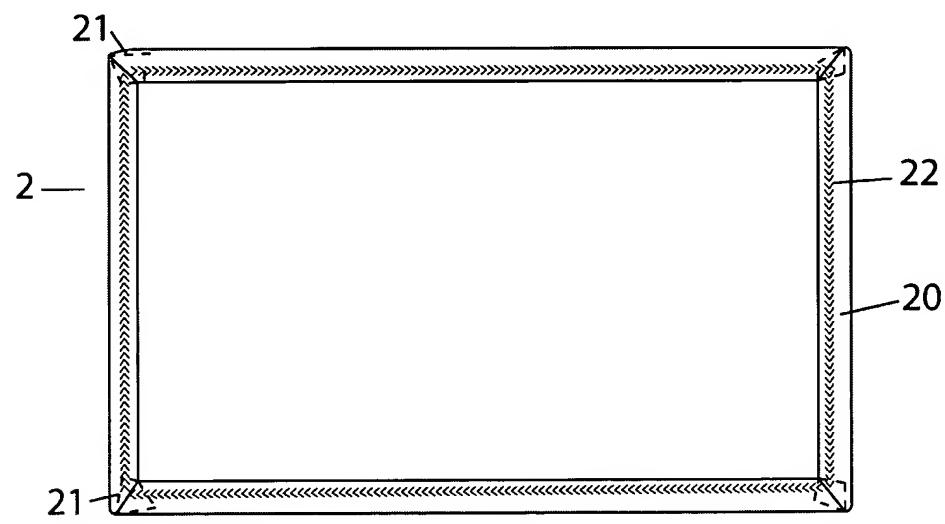
**FIG. 4/17**



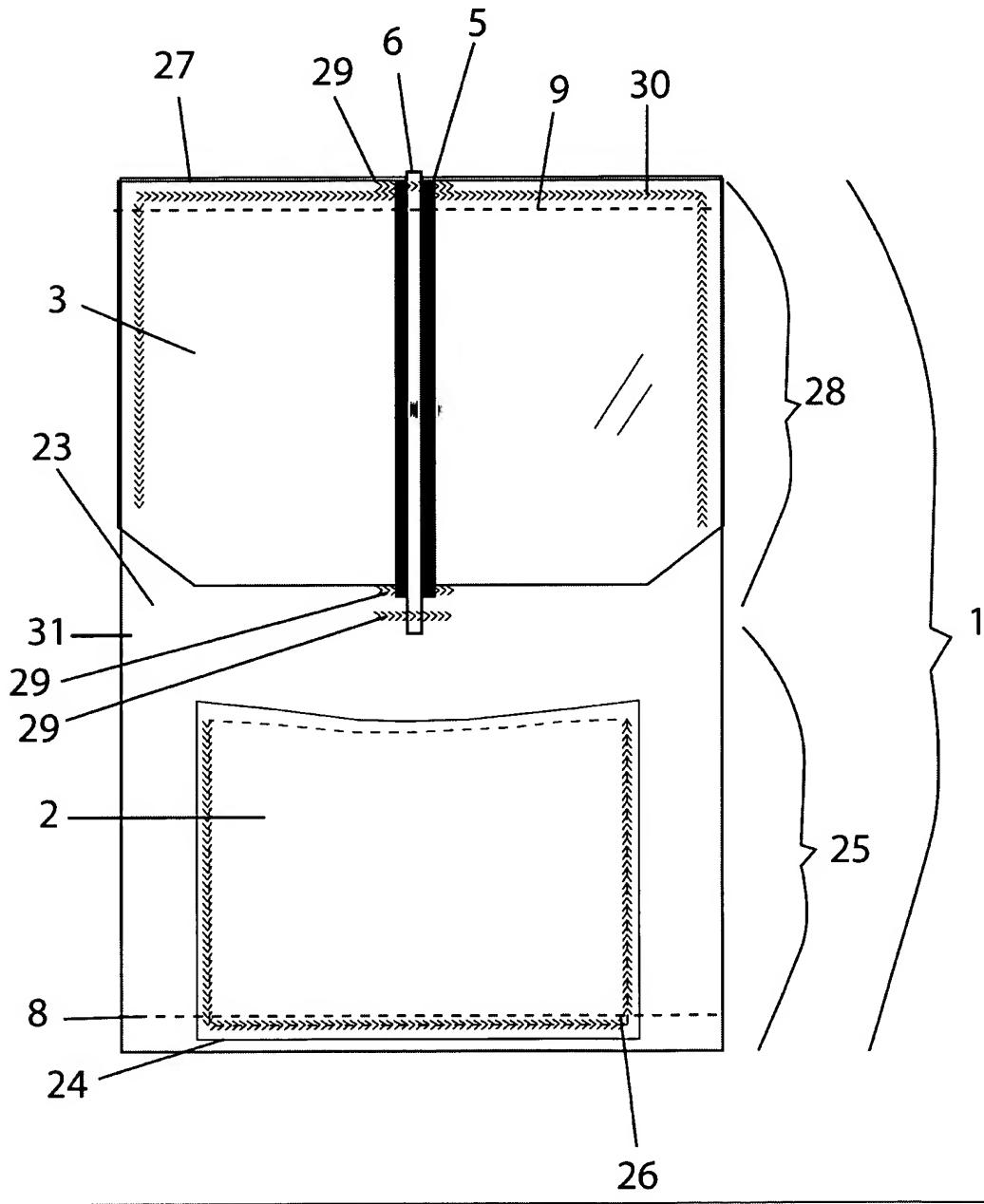
**FIG. 5/17**



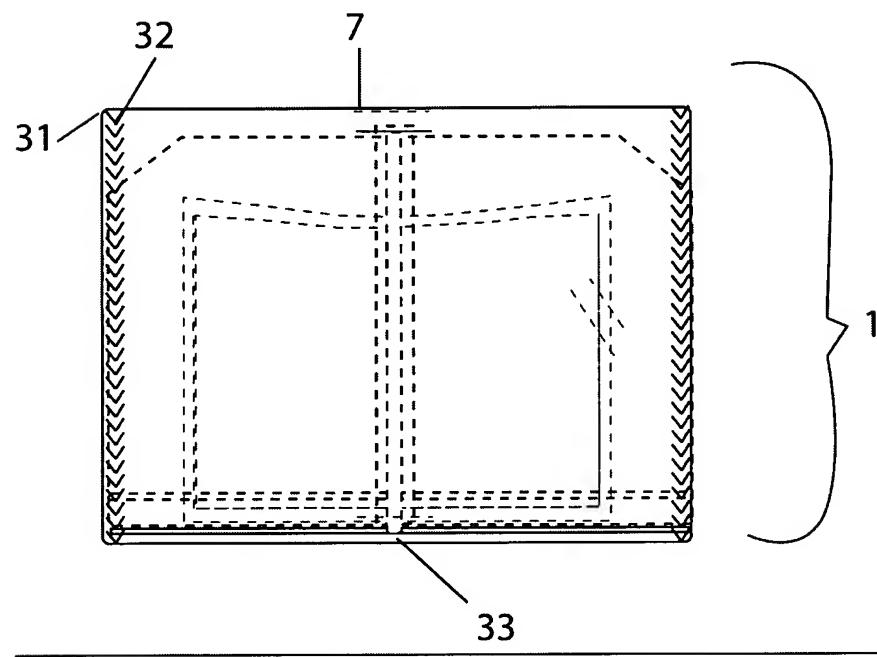
**FIG. 6/17**



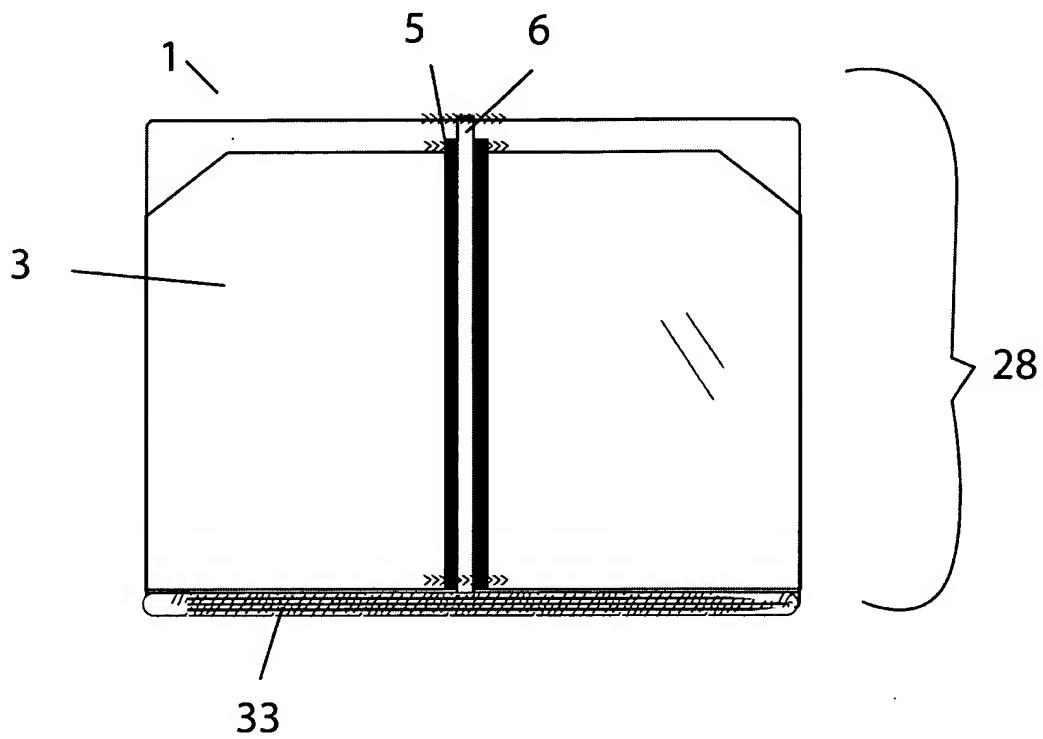
**FIG. 7/17**



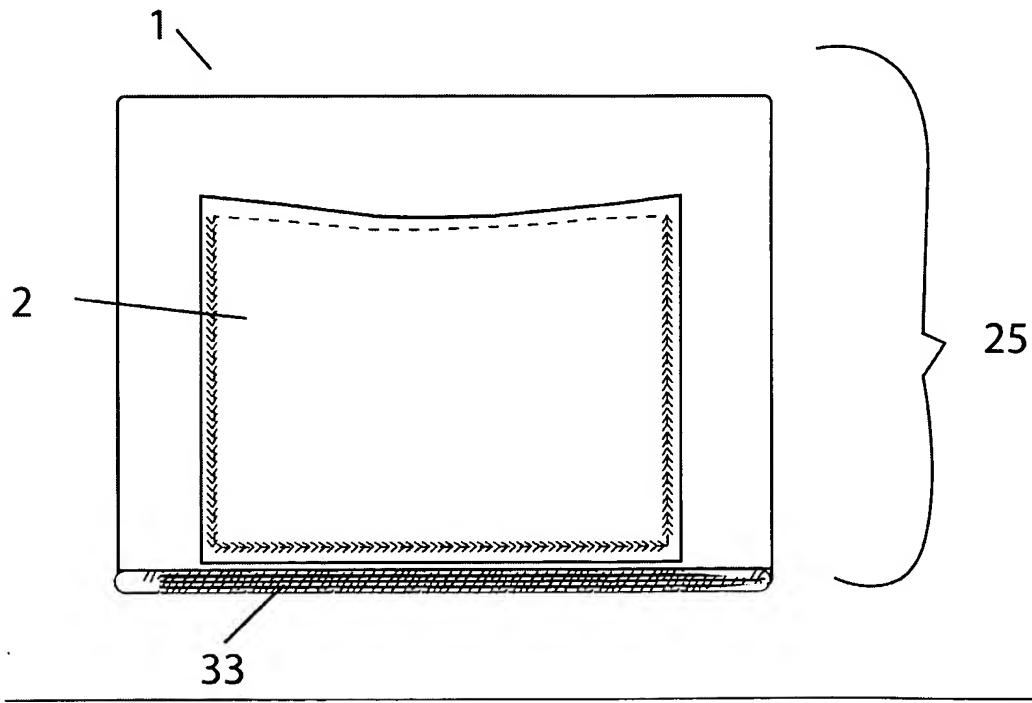
**FIG. 8/17**



## **FIG. 9/17**

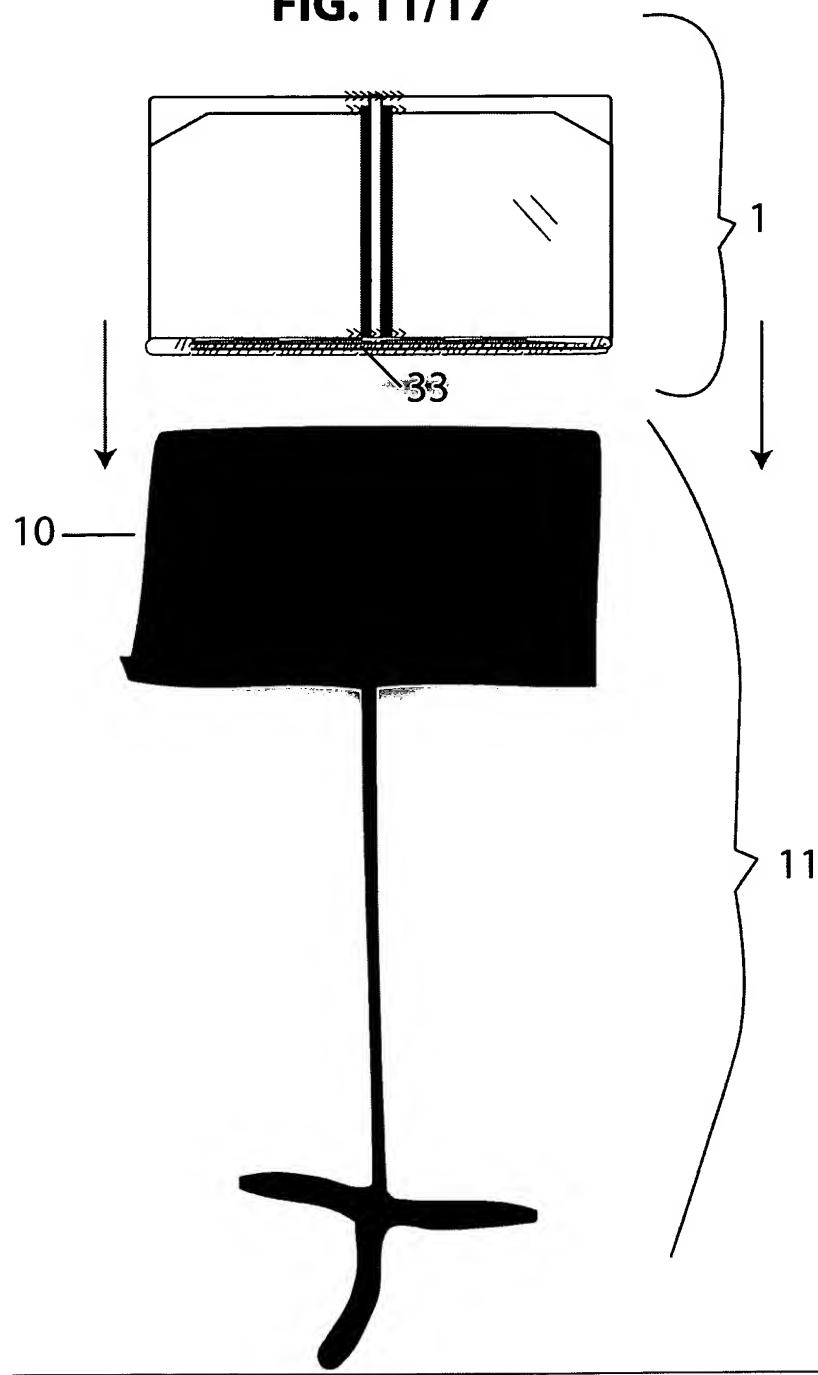


## **FIG. 10/17**

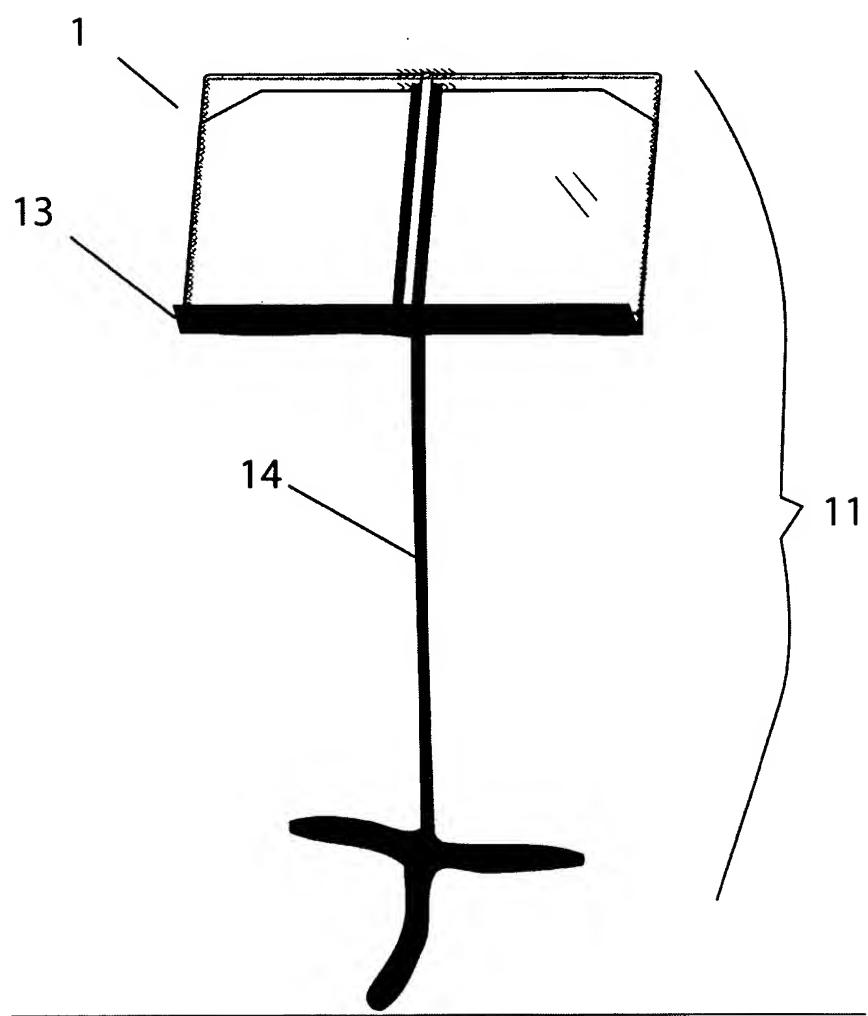




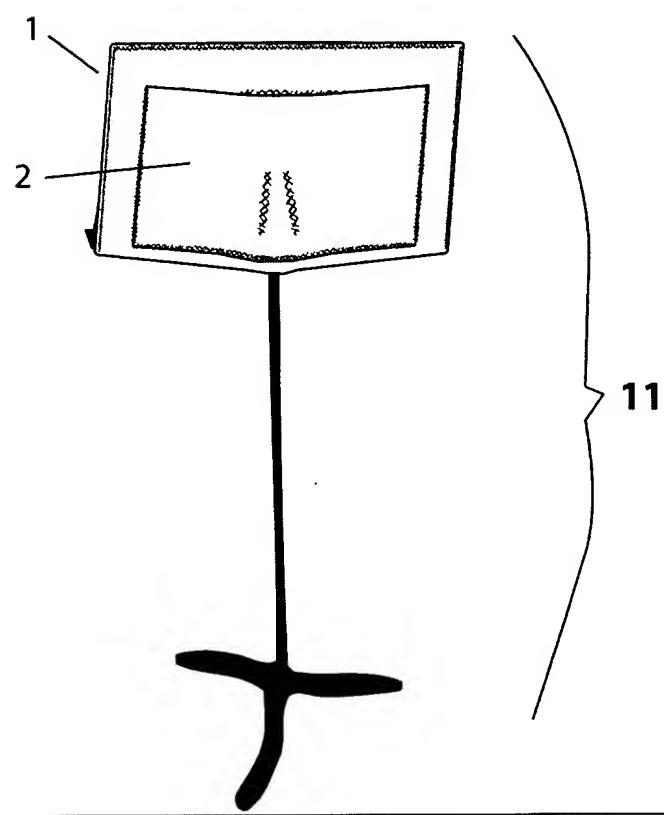
**FIG. 11/17**



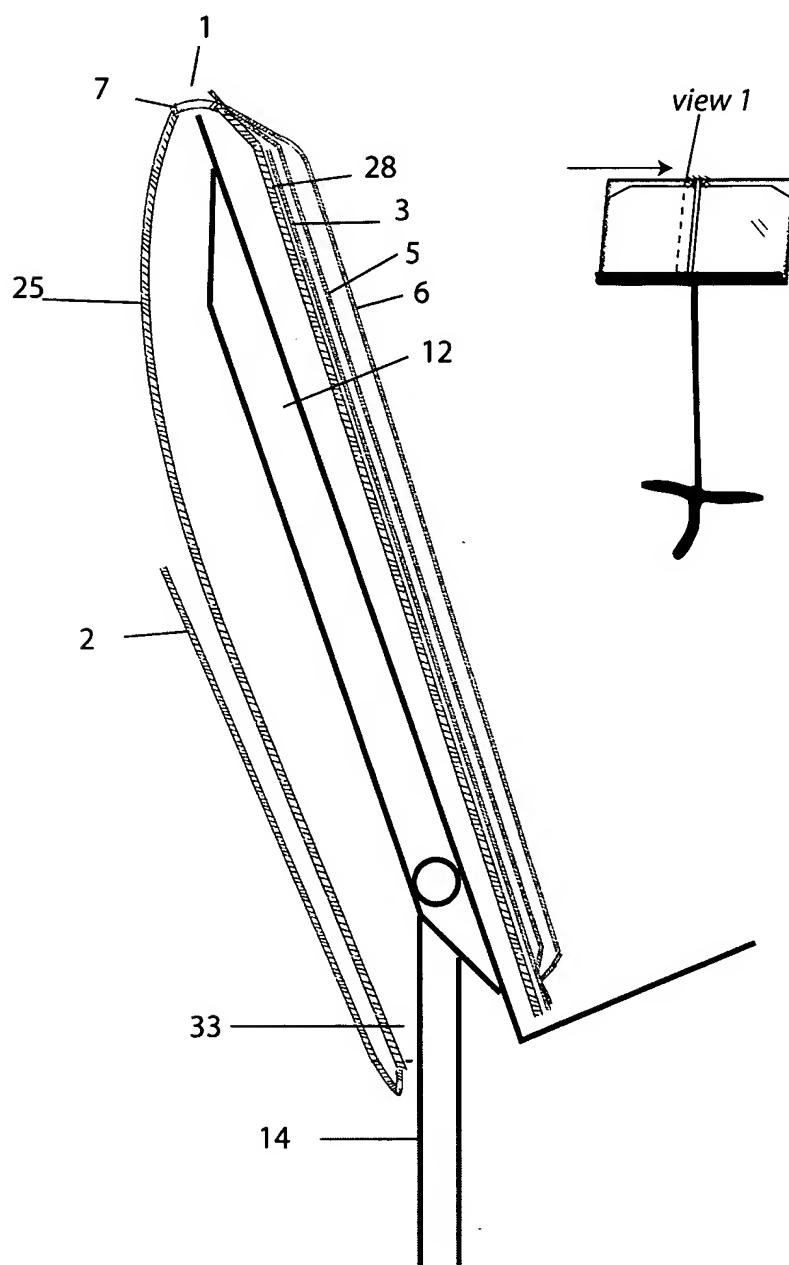
**FIG. 12/17**



**FIG. 13/17**

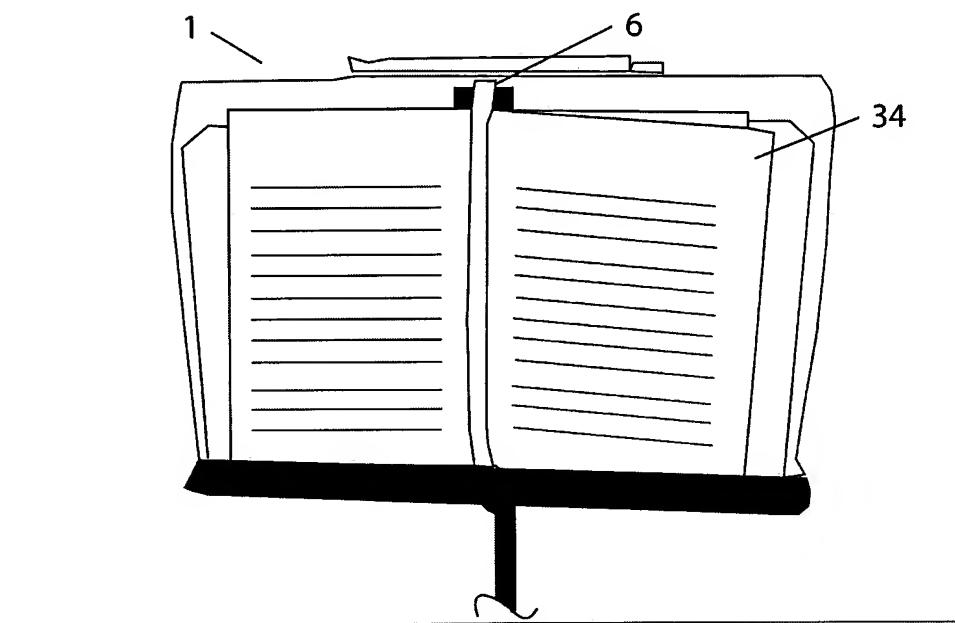


**FIG. 14/17**

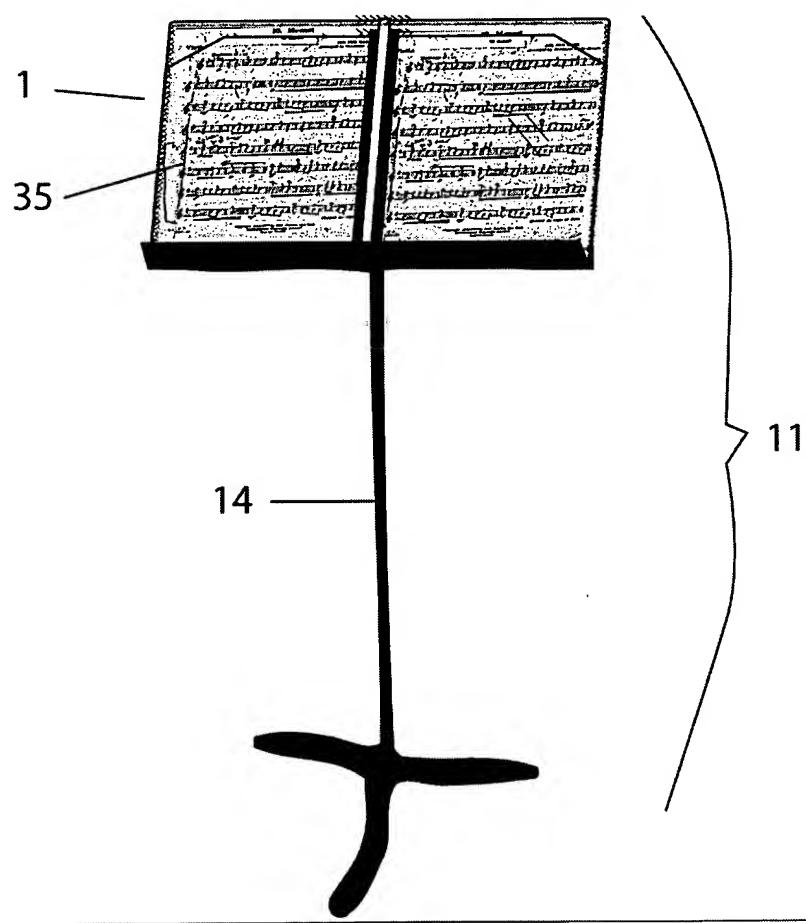


***View 1***

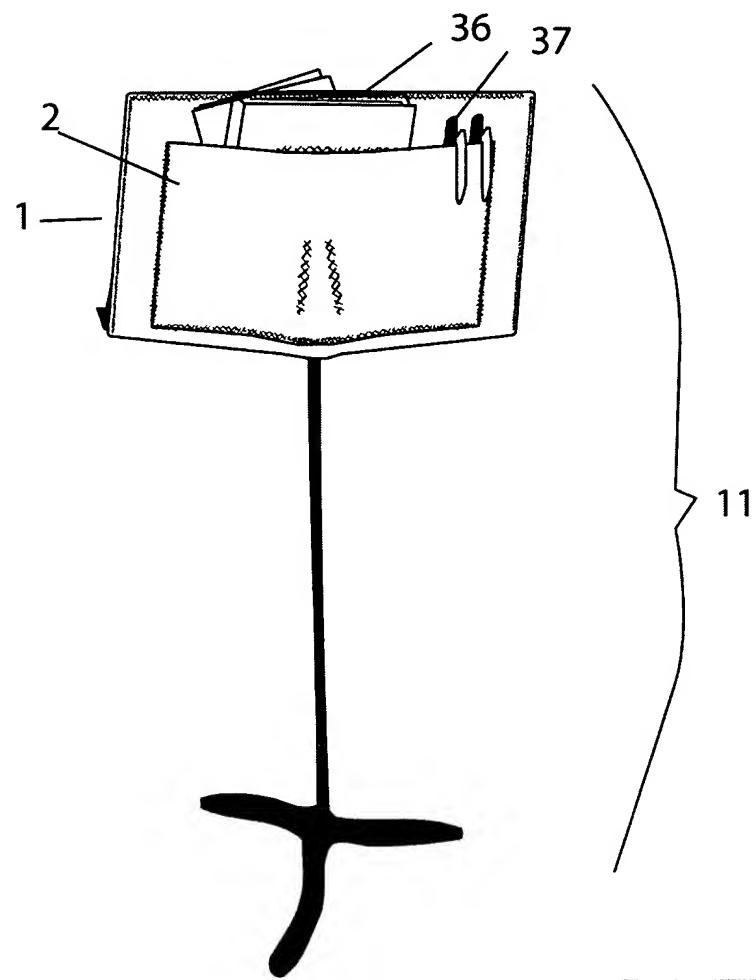
**FIG. 15/17**



**FIG. 16/17**



**FIG. 17/17**



DRAWINGS

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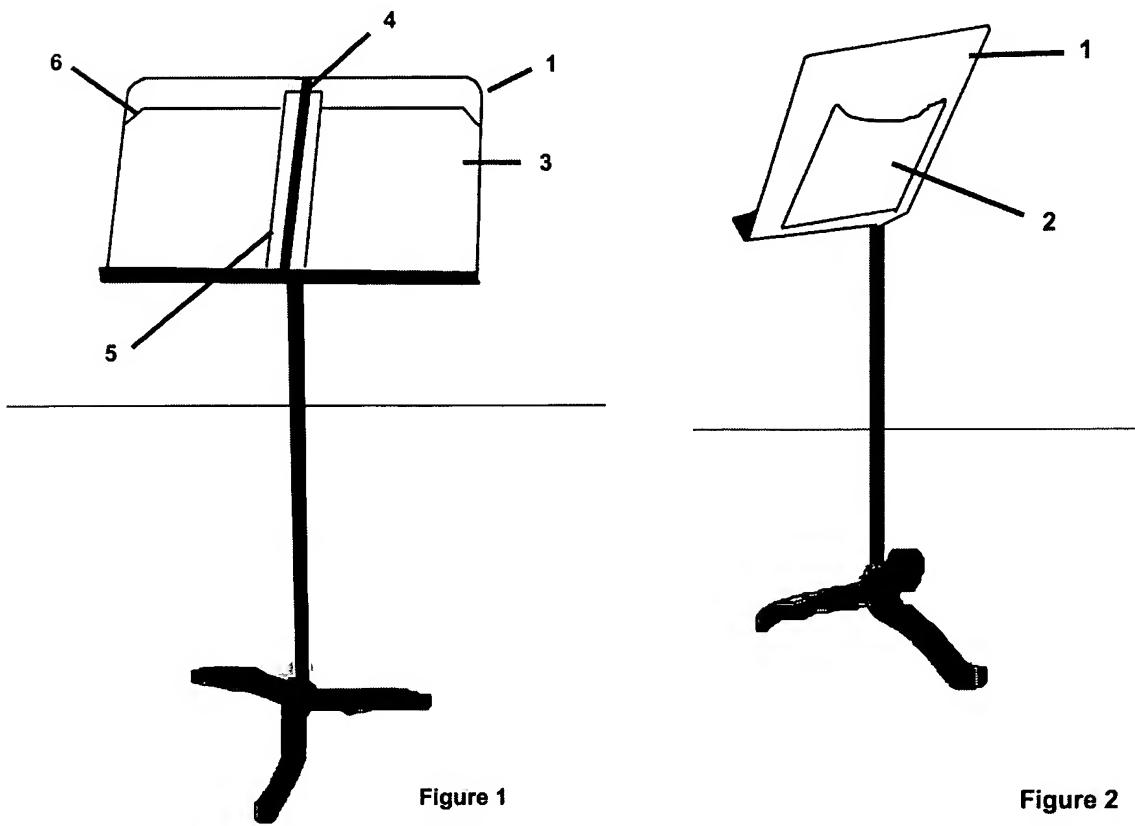


Figure 1

Figure 2

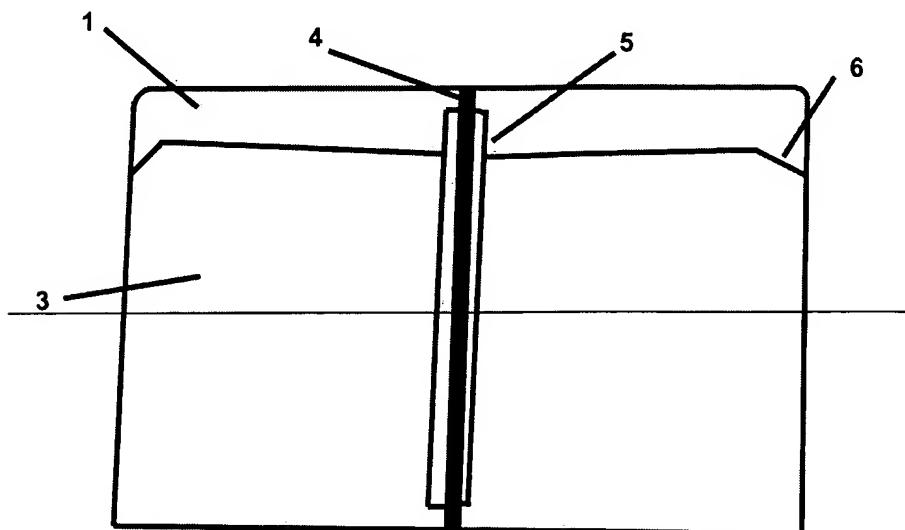


Figure 3

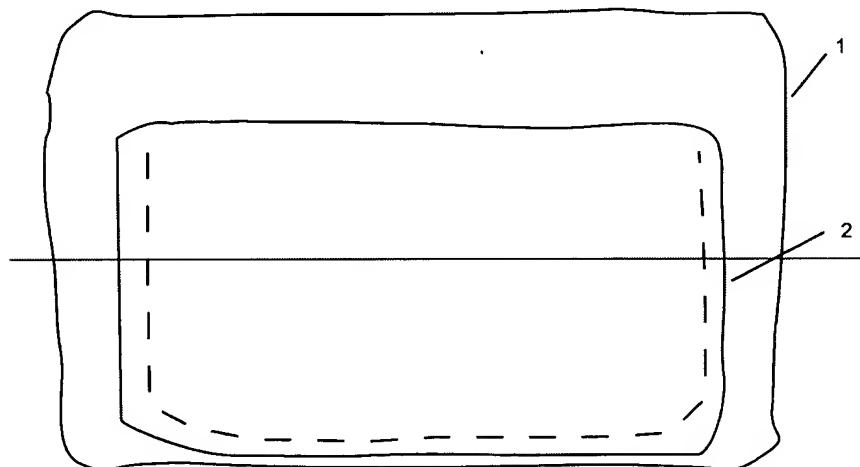


Figure 4

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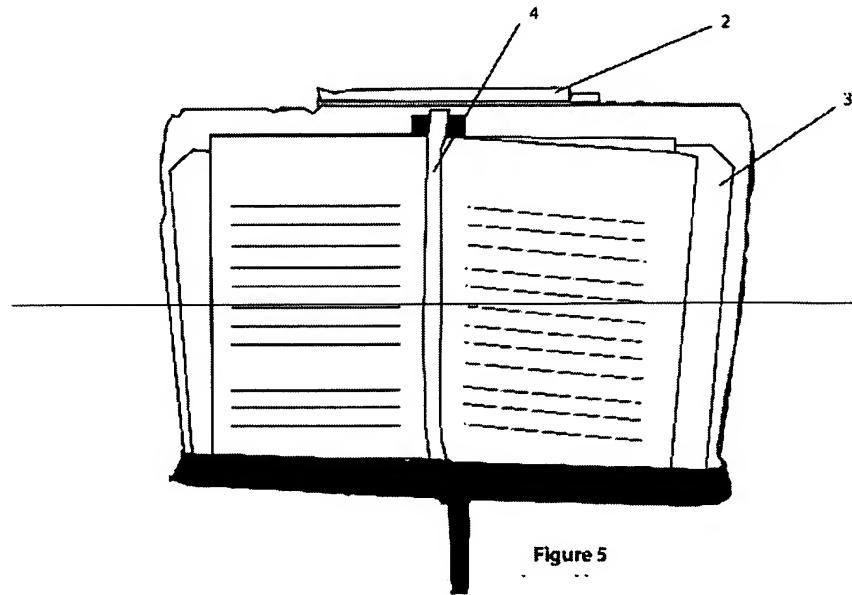


Figure 5

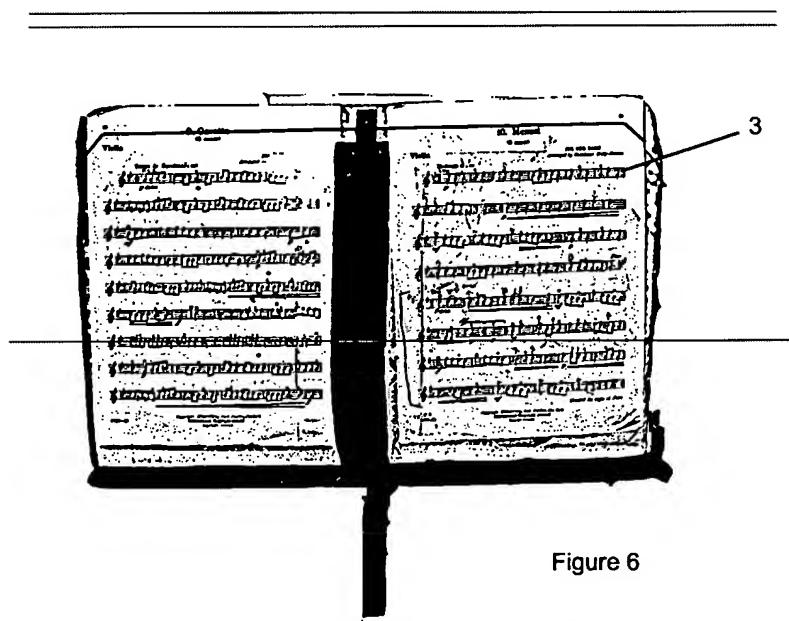
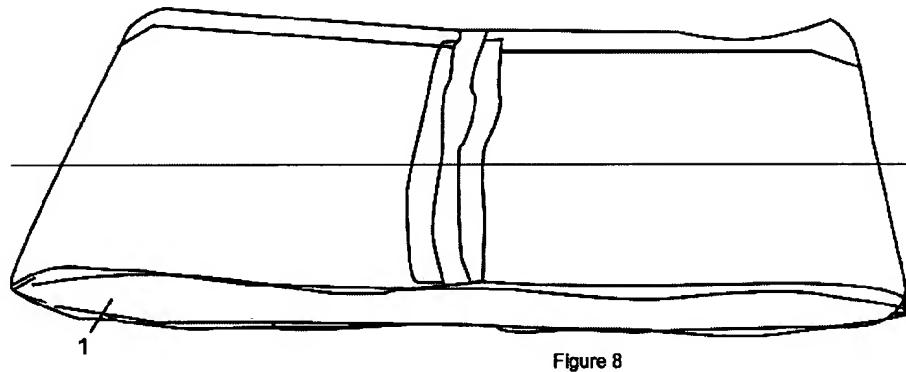
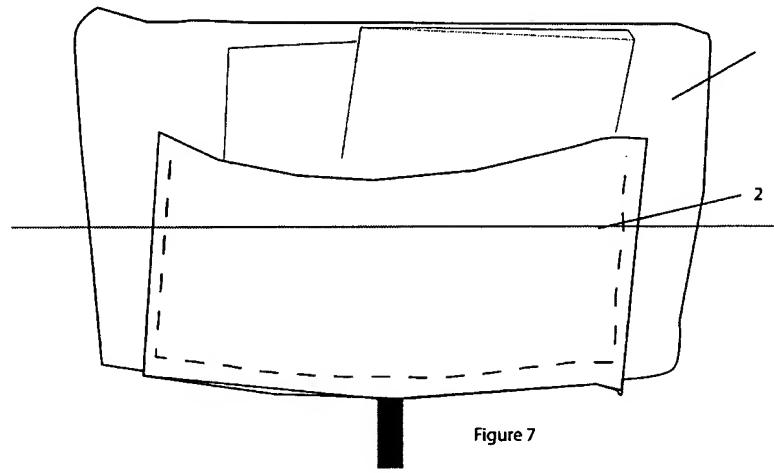


Figure 6



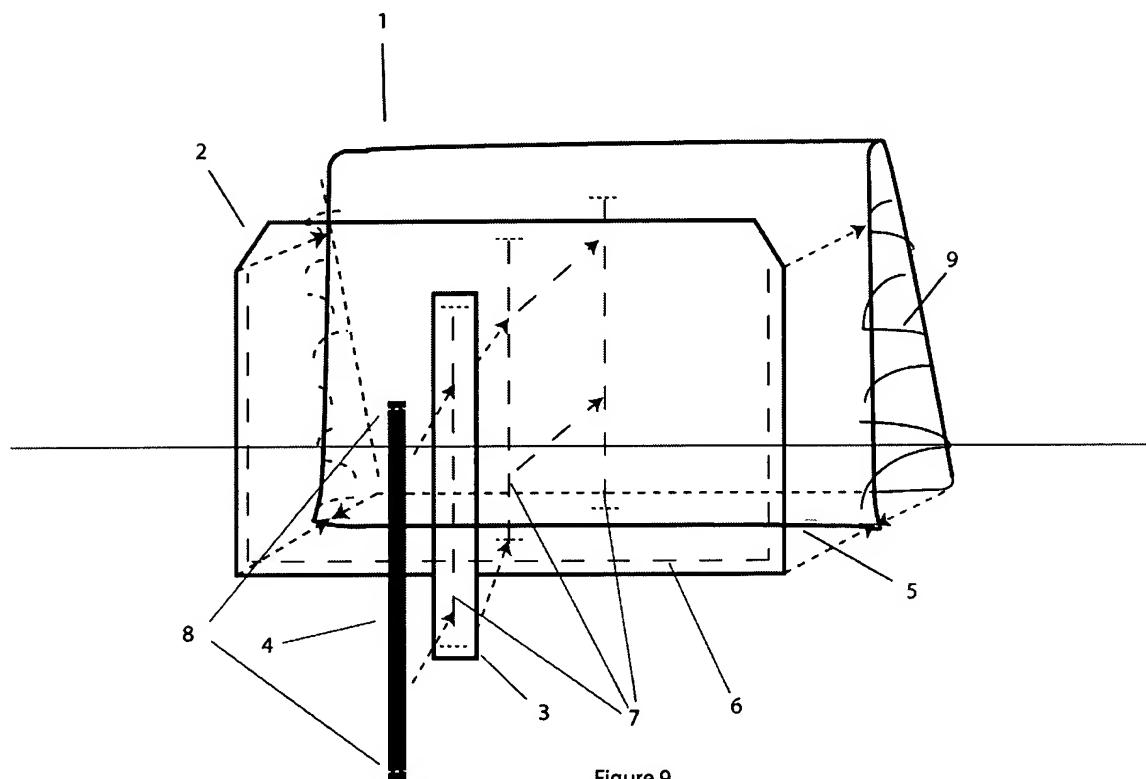


Figure 9

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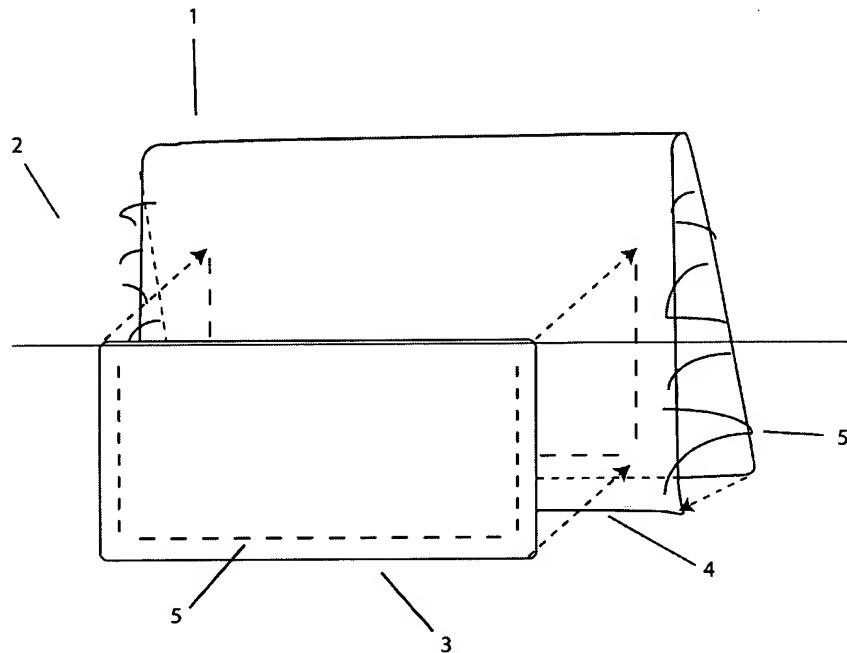


Figure 10

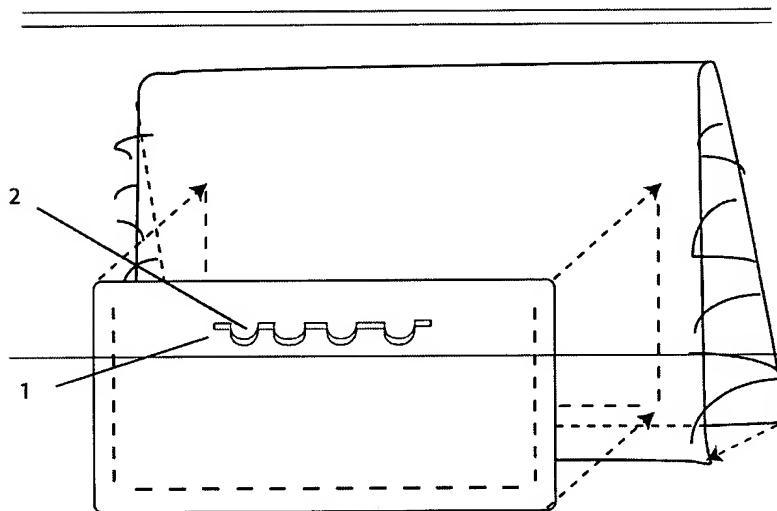


Figure 11

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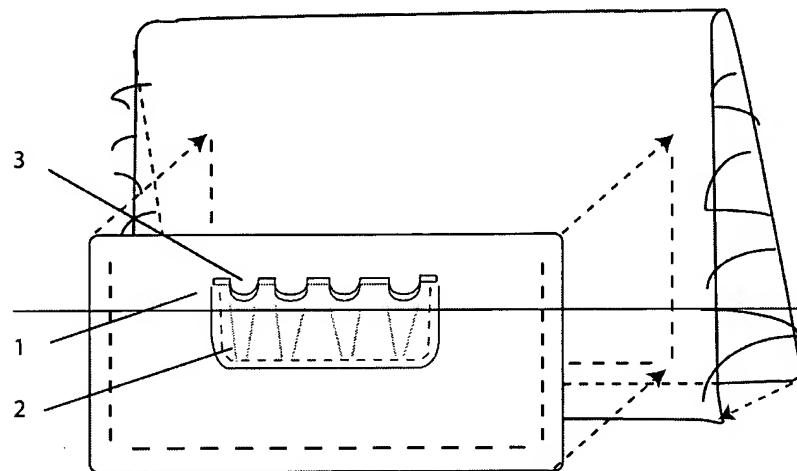


Figure 12

\* \* \* \* \*

Title of the Invention: Sheet Music Retaining Device

*(Formerly Sheet Music Stand Helper or  
Handi-Stand Helper)*

Name of Inventors: Jaclyn M. Willner and Kerren R. Willner

Filing Date of Application: November 16, 2003

Utility Patent Application Transmittal

Application Data Sheet: 1 pages

Office Action Summary (First Page Only): 1 page

Fee Transmittal for FY 2005

Declaration – Utility or Design Patent Application: 1 page

Substitute Specification: 17 pages (including claims)

Figures: 14 pages

Claims: 5: 2 pages (included in the Specification page count)

Original Specification with mark-ups: 62 pages

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